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Hello Regina

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ELMA SCHEMENAUER

Canada Rainbow Series
Cities

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hello
Regina

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Pemmican Pete says "Welcome to Regina." Every summer Pete is the friendly star of Regina's Buffalo Days. He wears a Wild West outfit. He rides a charging buffalo.

Pete's city, Regina, began as flat treeless prairie. A small trickling stream, Wascana Creek, was its only body of water. Native buffalo hunters stopped along Wascana Creek's banks. There they tanned the woolly brown buffalo hides. They dried the buffalo meat to make a long-lasting food called pemmican. (And that's where Pemmican Pete got his name!)

Pemmican Pete welcomes you to Regina and its "wild west" celebration, Buffalo Days

"Miracle City" is one name we could give Regina. It began from almost nothing. There were no trees for wood, only a small creek for water, and no hills for shelter. City builders had to bring wood, bricks, and most other things from elsewhere. Almost everything you see in Regina today was brought there by the hardy, strong-willed people themselves.

Many people call Regina the "Queen City of the Plains." It is the proud capital of Saskatchewan. It is a modern business, farming, and manufacturing centre. With about 175 000 people, Regina is one of Saskatchewan's two largest cities. It's about the same size as its rival city to the north, Saskatoon.

Harvest time. Farmers have swathed the wheat into long rows. Soon they will combine it to separate grain from straw.

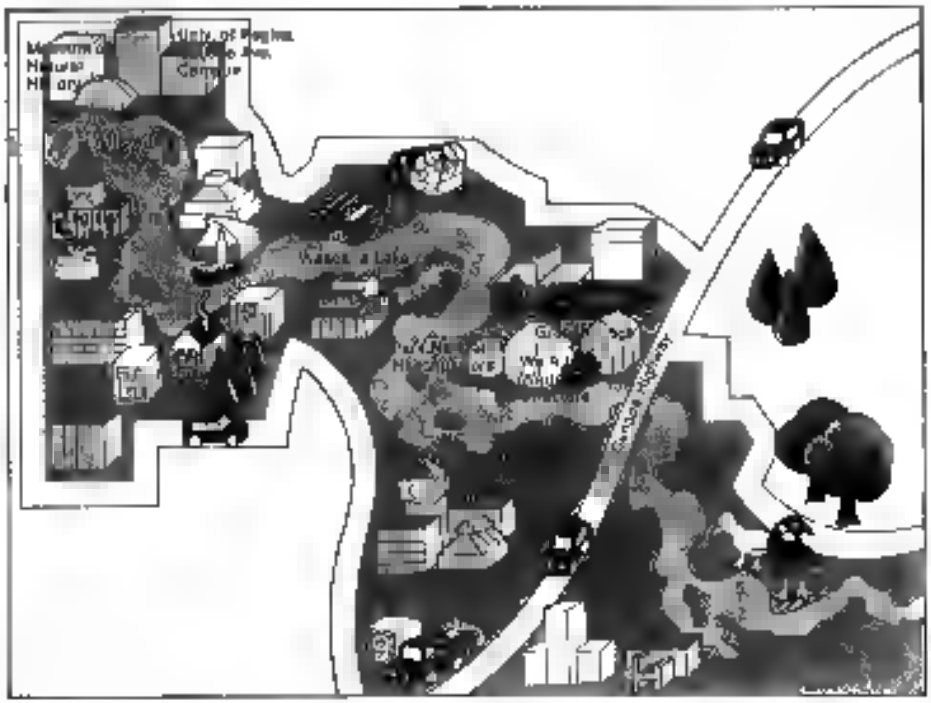
Wood and water — Regina had little of these at the beginning. But it always had its rich dark soil. This soil is gumbo clay, which is very good for growing wheat. The city is in the southeastern part of Saskatchewan's famous wheat growing belt.

All around Regina, you see fields of waving wheat. In the spring, the growing wheat is green like grass. In the summer the hot prairie sun quickly ripens it to gold. The city gains much of its wealth from the rich wheat fields around it. Regina is a business and supply centre for the farmers.

The city itself centres on its "homemade marvel." Wascana Lake. From small trickling Wascana Creek, Regina people created Wascana Lake. Much of the work was done back in the 1930s when other jobs were scarce. The government put 2100 men to work scraping out the Wascana Creek bed to form the lake. The men used hand tools and horse-drawn wagons. With the material that they scraped up they built Willow Island in the lake.

Today the "homemade" lake and the large park around it are a wonder of the prairies. They are Regina's fun centre, wildlife centre, and museum centre. They're the city's arts centre, university centre, and government centre all rolled into one.

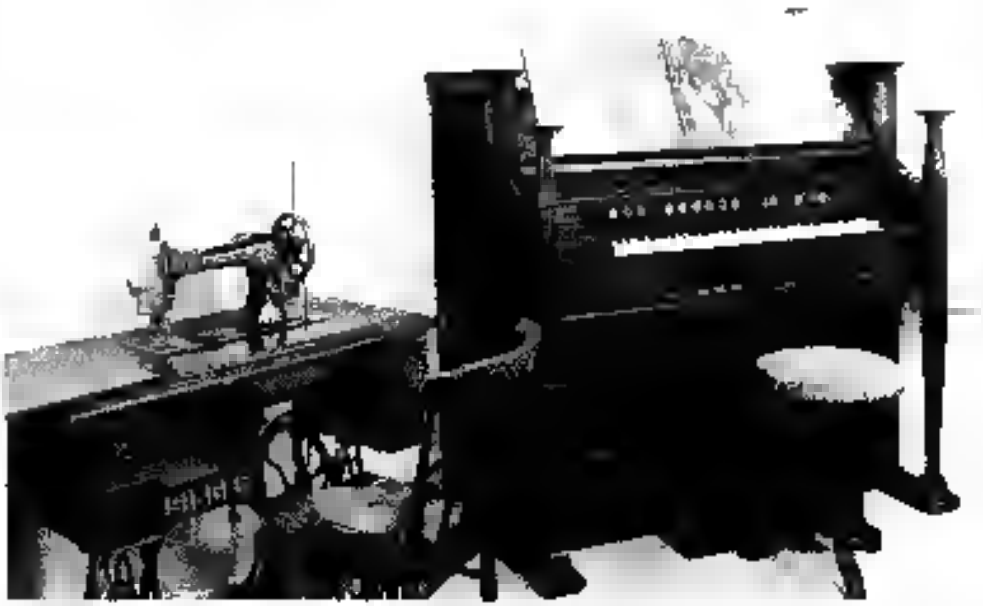
Wascana Park. Why is it called a cultural, education and government centre?



Wascana Park is a great place for skating and cross-country skiing in the winter. In the summer, you can walk among bright flower beds. You can play football or rent a bicycle or a paddle boat. You can even take a ferry boat ride across to Willow Island.

Birds love Wascana. In marshy Wascana Waterfowl Park you can watch terns, coots, grebes, red headed and yellow headed blackbirds, and many more. The Canada geese of Wascana are famous. They feel so comfortable in the park that they refuse to fly south for the winter! A Park Naturalist makes sure that the birds are healthy and safe.

You can walk among Wascana Park's bright flower beds. What else can you do there?



Old sewing machine and pump organ inside the Diefenbaker Homestead

One highlight of Wascana Park is the Diefenbaker Homestead. It is an old-fashioned little wooden house. Walk inside. You see a pioneer-style stove, tables, chairs, hooked rugs, oil lamps, pictures. This house was one that John Diefenbaker lived in as a boy. In fact, he helped his father build it when he was only 11 years old. John Diefenbaker grew up to be Canada's 13th prime minister.

Not far from the Diefenbaker Homestead is a statue of Louis Riel. In the early days of the Canadian west, Riel was an important leader of the Métis people. On summer evenings, actors present a lively play about Riel at Regina's Government House.

The "3-D" wolf display at the Museum of Natural History. What other Saskatchewan animals could you see there?

See timber wolves howling at the moon in a snowy northern Saskatchewan forest. See pelicans sunning themselves beside a Saskatchewan lake. Now you are at Regina's Museum of Natural History. It's at the north end of Wascana Park. Prairie dogs, coyotes, elk, black bears, moose — these are just a few of the interesting animals you can see. Many of the displays are "3-D." Looking at them, you feel as if you're really there.

The Museum does not show only animals. It also has displays telling about the history of Saskatchewan.

Left, right! Left, right! Now leave Wascana Park. Head for the RCMP Depot on the western edge of Regina. This is where young men and women from all over Canada come to train as Royal Canadian Mounted Police. They learn to march, to shoot, to drive police cars, to catch criminals. They study Canadian law and how to use computers for police information. You can tour the Depot and meet some of the recruits in training.

At the Depot you can also visit the RCMP Museum. It tells the story of the RCMP in Canada.

Learning to be Royal Canadian Mounted Police officers. It's not always easy!

Inside Regina's Cornwall Centre which opened in 1981. What would you notice about most downtown Regina buildings?

Several blocks east of the RCMP Depot is downtown Regina. Downtown centres on Victoria Avenue between Albert and Broad Streets. Its buildings are very modern, built mostly of concrete and glass.

Streets in most western Canadian cities are wide. Regina's downtown streets, however, are narrow. This sometimes causes traffic problems. Cars sometimes have to line up for the bridges crossing Wascana Creek. In spite of traffic problems, Reginans like to use cars to get around their city. Cars are their favourite means of travel. However, they also use Regina's system of city buses.

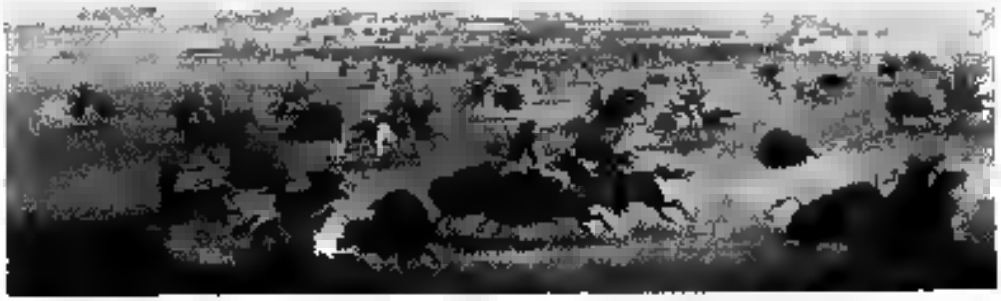
In summer some Reginans get around by bike. A bike trail winds through the city along Wascana Creek. It's fun to go zipping along in the sunshine under the clear prairie sky. The sun shines almost every day in Regina. Sometimes it gets a little too warm and dry in summer. Average temperature for July is 19°C.

Brrrr! Winter can be cold in Regina, especially when the wind howls across the open plains. Average temperature for January is about 18°C. Blizzards can blow up suddenly. Because of the harsh winters, Reginans work hard to make their houses snug and warm. They also have special laws about how far children should have to walk to school.

Winter fun. Skating on Wascana Lake. How do Reginans cope with their harsh winters?

Long ago the windswept area that is now Regina was the home of the Native Assiniboine and Cree peoples. They roamed the grasslands hunting buffalo. They lived in buffalo-skin teepees. After a hunt, Native people often camped at a certain spot on the flat banks of Wascana Creek. There they tanned buffalo hides and made pemmican.

The Wascana Creek camping spot was important in the Native peoples' religious beliefs. They piled up buffalo bones there. As the years passed, the pile of bones grew bigger and bigger. From it came the early name of the spot. In the Cree language, it was *Oskunah-kasas lake*. Early European explorers called it *Wascana* or *Pile of Bones*.



Native people surrounding and shooting buffalo. This painting, called A 'Surround', was done in 1837 by Alfred Jacob Miller.

Railway builders near Regina, in the 1880s. They laid down logs called "ties." Over these went the steel rails.

Whooo-ooo! The trains are coming! In the early 1880s the Canadian Pacific Railway Company built a railway across western Canada. It was to be a great "ribbon of steel" tying Canada together. The CPR decided to build a town at the place where the railway crossed Wascana Creek. This was the Native peoples' camping spot. Pile of Bones.

At the same time, the Canadian government was also looking for a new spot for a town. They wanted it to be the new capital of the Northwest Territories. (At that time the Northwest Territories was a huge area of the west, including most of the prairies.)

Regina 1885. What are the sidewalks and buildings made of?

"Pile of Bones is our spot," said the CPR. "Pile of Bones is our spot," said the Canadian government. Both agreed on the site for the brand new town.

At first that "town" was just a huddle of settlers' tents on the open prairie. Then, in August 1882, the first CPR train came puffing in. Along with the train came a new name for the community — *Regina*. This is the Latin word for *queen*. It was given to honour the British queen, Victoria.

Some people shook their heads over the choice of Regina as capital of the Northwest Territories. "There's hardly a tree in sight" they said. "There's only about enough water in the creek to wash a sheep!" Many thought the capital should have been a bit farther north — in the well watered and wooded Qu'Appelle River Valley.

In spite of the scoffers, Regina grew. Soon the North West Mounted Police moved their main fort there. (They are called the RCMP today.)

Eyes front. Royal Canadian Mounted Police of today. In the early days they were called the North West Mounted Police.

Regina in 1905. What do the business signs "Horse Exchange" and "Seed Supply House" tell you?

Missionaries arrived in Regina. Among the first were Methodists, Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, and Anglicans. They started churches and Sunday Schools. Sunday Schools soon became an important means of education for the new community's young people.

As the years passed, scores of eager, hard-working farm families arrived. Many came from Manitoba, Ontario, and the United States. The Regina area's rich, treeless wheat-growing land drew them there. Business people arrived, too. They opened stores, hotels, and other businesses. By 1903, Regina was a city. Soon it became the capital of the new province of Saskatchewan.

During the 1930s, much of the world was in a business slump. People lost their jobs. Many did not even have money for food. In Saskatchewan the slump was especially bad because the 1930s were such dry years there. Very little rain fell. "It's so dry," Saskatchewan people joked, "that we have to use paper clips to put stamps on our letters!" Farming soil dried up. The top layers drifted away with the wind, blackening the sky. Crops would not grow.

What did people do? They learned to work together — to co-operate. They shared what little food they had. They helped each other build barns, fix their homes, and make quilts and clothes for their families.

A drift of dry soil partly buries a tractor and threshing machine on a Saskatchewan farm about 1934.

Nowhere in Canada did people learn to co-operate as much as in Saskatchewan. In time, they started Co-op stores. These are stores owned by the people who shop in them.

In much the same way, Saskatchewan farmers started a Co-op oil refinery just outside Regina. From the Co-op oil refinery, farmers could get cheaper fuel than from a refinery run by a company.

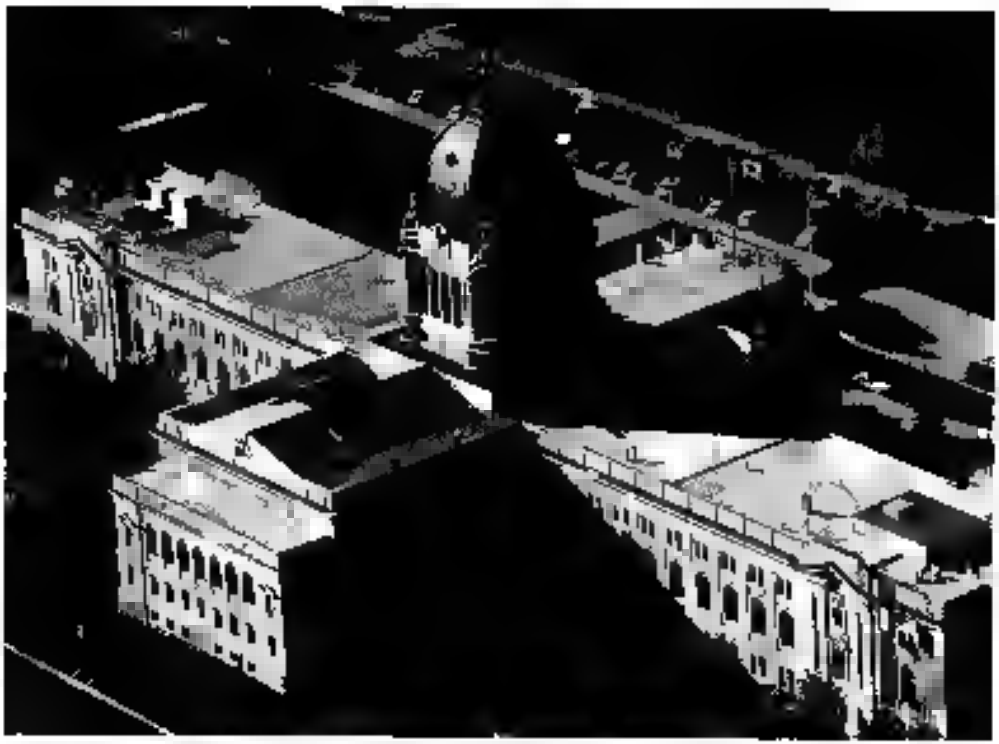
Today almost every Saskatchewan town has its Co-op store and credit union. (A credit union is a bank owned by the people who use it.) Many communities also have Pool (co-operative) elevators, where farmers can take their grain to market.

Oil refinery near Regina. What kind of fields can you see at the top of the picture?

Credit Union Central Regina What other things show that co-operation is a way of life in Saskatchewan?

Co-operating is a way of life in Saskatchewan Regina as the capital city points the way

Most government leaders in Regina believe strongly in co-operation They also believe in treating everyone alike They want to give all Saskatchewan people the same chances in life no matter what their race or religion The Saskatchewan government has been a leader in this kind of thinking For instance in 1947 it passed Canada's first bill of rights In 1962 it became the first in Canada to introduce prepaid medical care for all its people



Saskatchewan's provincial government leaders meet in the Legislative Building in Regina. What do they discuss?

Honk, honk! Canada geese stalk past red, yellow, and blue flower beds. They are in front of Regina's Legislative Building. It is a stately black-domed building in Wascana Park. This is where Saskatchewan's provincial government leaders meet. They deal with matters such as health care, car licences, and insurance in the province.

They also discuss Saskatchewan's natural resources. The province's rich resources include wheat, potash, and oil. Government leaders try hard to manage these resources in ways that will be good for all Saskatchewan people.

Picture a sleek 16-storey building with a crown of light. This is Regina City Hall. It is on Victoria Avenue downtown. At night, City Hall's crowning lights cast a warm glow over Regina.

City Hall is where Regina city government meets. The city government is made up of a mayor and 10 aldermen. They deal with matters affecting mainly the city itself. These include street lighting and city water supply. Regina is growing quickly these days. That means city government leaders often need to talk about what kinds of new buildings they should allow.

Reginans are proud of their ultramodern City Hall. What do city government leaders discuss here?

Some Regina people came from Manitoba, Ontario Britain the U S Germany and Norway Some came from Holland China and Italy Since the early 1900s, people have come to Regina from many different places Of course, the Native peoples were there long before any others Native people still make up quite a large percentage of the city's population. Every spring, Regina people hold a festival to share their many backgrounds. They call it Mosaic

Summer brings Buffalo Days with Pemmican Pete and Pemmican Pearl That's when Regina goes "Wild West " There are pancake breakfasts horse races tractor pulls and other exciting events.

Pemmican Pete and Pemmican Pearl at Buffalo Days

Prairie sailors on Wascana Lake. Besides sailing, what other sports do Reginans enjoy?

"What wears green and draws fans from all over Saskatchewan?" It's the famous Saskatchewan Roughriders football team. Roughriders play their home games in Regina's Taylor Field.

Reginans don't only like to watch sports. They like to take part, too. Wascana Park is the place for boating, swimming, and golf. In the winter, Reginans enjoy such sports as skating, cross-country skiing, and curling.

Reginans also enjoy music and plays. The Saskatchewan Centre of the Arts is the place to hear the Regina **Symphony**. The Globe Theatre is one place for plays.

The Agrib t on held in Regina s a major Canadian farming show Why is agriculture important to the city?

As in the past farming is still a main source of wealth for Regina However the city has also become a centre for turning raw materials into finished goods Just outside Regina is IPSCO one of western Canada's largest steel mills Workers there make steel and pipe to sell around the world At the huge Co-op oil refinery workers turn crude oil into fuel oil and gasoline

Other main sources of jobs in Regina include the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool Credit Union Central, and Co-op Insurance Services Of course a number of Regina people work for the provincial government

Cornwall Centre in downtown Regina opened in 1981. It includes two office towers, two large department stores, and over 90 smaller shops.

In recent years, new buildings have popped up like mushrooms in Regina. City government leaders are glad to see them. However, they want to make sure the rapid new growth will be good for the people and city as a whole. They are taking care to guide it in the right directions.

Regina has come a long way. First, it was Pile of Bones. Now it's Queen City of the Plains — modern and bustling. Under the clear blue prairie sky, the city's future looks bright.

Regina, Queen City of the Plains

Glossary

bill of rights — A statement of how people are to be treated as citizens of a certain place such as a country or province It is a statement of certain freedoms and rights that all citizens have For instance in Canada all citizens have freedom of speech (p 23)

coot — A wading and swimming bird that looks something like a chicken (p 10)

crude oil — Oil as it comes out of the ground, before people have prepared it for use (p 28)

grebe — A diving bird something like a loon (p 10)

homestead — A house and other buildings with their land. In the west a homestead was a piece of land that the government gave to a settler to be turned into a farm (p 11)

insurance — An agreement that a person can pay for and make with an insurance company If the person suffers a loss because of hail fire wind, and so on the company will pay that person a certain amount of money The money is to make up for the loss suffered (p 24)

manufacturing — The producing or making of things especially by machine (p 7)

medical — Having to do with medicine having to do with health care (p 23)

Northwest Territories — The northwestern part of Canada Today this is the area west of Hudson Bay east of the Yukon and north of the western provinces At one time

the Northwest Territories took in a much larger area including all of what are now Saskatchewan and Alberta (p. 17)

natural resource — A material found in nature and used by people. For example, fish, water, and gold are all natural resources. (p. 24)

pelican — A large water bird having, under its beak, a pouch for storing food. (p. 12)

pemmican — A mixture of dried meat and fat, sometimes including berries. (p. 6)

percentage — A part or rate based on 100. For example, if 20 out of every 100 people wear glasses, we say 20 percent wear glasses. The percentage of those wearing glasses would be 20. (p. 26)

potash — A substance containing potassium, used mainly for fertilizer. (p. 24)

recruit — A new member of a group, especially a police or armed forces group. (p. 13)

refinery — A place where workers turn crude oil (oil as it comes from the ground) into products that people can use. These products include gasoline for cars, grease for motors, and many kinds of plastic. (p. 22)

rival — A person or group that tries to get the same things as another. A person or group that tries to be equal to or better than another. (p. 7)

scoffer — A person who makes fun of something. (p. 19)

site — A place, a location. (p. 18)

symphony — A large group of musicians who play long, usually quite serious pieces of music called symphonies. (p. 27)

tern — A bird that looks something like a small sea gull. (p. 10)

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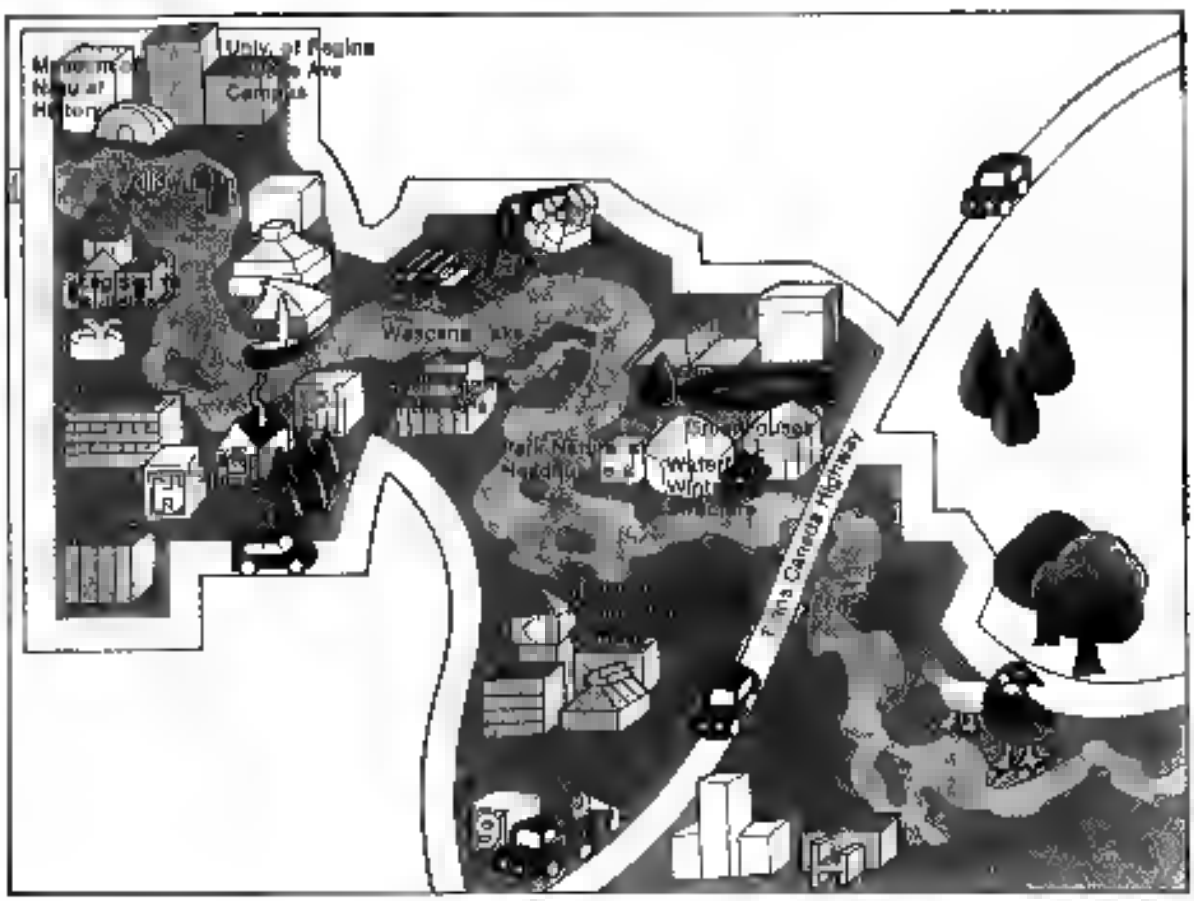

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See timber wolves howling at the moon in a snowy northern Saskatchewan forest See pelicans sunning themselves beside a Saskatchewan lake Now you are at Regina s Museum of Natural History It's at the north end of Wascana Park Prairie dogs coyotes elk black bears moose — these are just a few of the interesting animals you can see Many of the displays are "3-D " Looking at them, you feel as if you re really there

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Inside Regina's Cornwall Centre which opened in 1961. What would you notice about most downtown Regina buildings?

Several blocks east of the RCMP Depot is downtown Regina. Downtown centres on Victoria Avenue between Albert and Broad Streets. Its buildings are very modern, built mostly of concrete and glass.

Streets in most western Canadian cities are wide. Regina's downtown streets, however, are narrow. This sometimes causes traffic problems. Cars sometimes have to line up for the bridges crossing Wascana Creek. In spite of traffic problems, Reginans like to use cars to get around their city. Cars are their favourite means of travel. However, they also use Regina's system of city buses.

In summer some Reginans get around by bike. A bike trail winds through the city along Wascana Creek. It's fun to go zipping along in the sunshine under the clear prairie sky. The sun shines almost every day in Regina. Sometimes it gets a little too warm and dry in summer. Average temperature for July is 19°C.

Brrrr! Winter can be cold in Regina, especially when the wind howls across the open plains. Average temperature for January is about -18°C. Blizzards can blow up suddenly. Because of the harsh winters, Reginans work hard to make their houses snug and warm. They also have special laws about how far children should have to walk to school.

Winter fun. Skating on Wascana Lake. How do Reginans cope with their harsh winters?

Long ago the windswept area that is now Regina was the home of the Native Assiniboine and Cree peoples They roamed the grasslands hunting buffalo They lived in buffalo-skin teepees After a hunt Native people often camped at a certain spot on the flat banks of Wascana Creek There they tanned buffalo hides and made pemmican

The Wascana Creek camping spot was important in the Native peoples religious beliefs They piled up buffalo bones there As the years passed the pile of bones grew bigger and bigger From it came the early name of the spot In the Cree language, it was *Oskunah-kasas-take* Early European explorers called it *Wascana* or *Pile of Bones*

Native people surrounding and shooting buffalo This painting called A 'Surround' was done in 1837 by Alfred Jacob Miller

Railway builders near Regina in the 1880s. They laid down logs called "ties." Over these went the steel rails.

Whooo-ooo! The trains are coming! In the early 1880s the Canadian Pacific Railway Company built a railway across western Canada. It was to be a great "ribbon of steel" tying Canada together. The CPR decided to build a town at the place where the railway crossed Wascana Creek. This was the Native peoples' camping spot. Pile of Bones.

At the same time, the Canadian government was also looking for a new spot for a town. They wanted it to be the new capital of the Northwest Territories. (At that time the Northwest Territories was a huge area of the west, including most of the prairies.)

Regina 1885 What are the sidewalks and buildings made of?

"Pile of Bones is our spot," said the CPR. "Pile of Bones is our spot," said the Canadian government. Both agreed on the site for the brand new town.

At first that "town" was just a huddle of settlers' tents on the open prairie. Then, in August 1882, the first CPR train came puffing in. Along with the train came a new name for the community — *Regina*. This is the Latin word for *queen*. It was given to honour the British queen, Victoria.

Some people shook their heads over the choice of Regina as capital of the Northwest Territories "There's hardly a tree in sight " they said "There's only about enough water in the creek to wash a sheep!" Many thought the capital should have been a bit farther north — in the well watered and wooded Qu Appelle River Valley

In spite of the scoffers, Regina grew Soon the North West Mounted Police moved their main fort there (They are called the RCMP today)

Eyes front! Royal Canadian Mounted Police of today In the early days they were called the North West Mounted Police

Regina in 1905. What do the business signs "Horse Exchange" and "Seed Supply House" tell you?

Missionaries arrived in Regina. Among the first were Methodists, Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, and Anglicans. They started churches and Sunday Schools. Sunday Schools soon became an important means of education for the new community's young people.

As the years passed, scores of eager, hard-working farm families arrived. Many came from Manitoba, Ontario, and the United States. The Regina area's rich, treeless wheat growing land drew them there. Business people arrived, too. They opened stores, hotels, and other businesses. By 1903, Regina was a city. Soon it became the capital of the new province of Saskatchewan.

During the 1930s, much of the world was in a business "slump." People lost their jobs. Many did not even have money for food. In Saskatchewan the slump was especially bad because the 1930s were such dry years there. Very little rain fell. "It's so dry," Saskatchewan people joked, "that we have to use paper clips to put stamps on our letters!" Farming soil dried up. The top layers drifted away with the wind, blackening the sky. Crops would not grow.

What did people do? They learned to work together — to co-operate. They shared what little food they had. They helped each other build barns, fix their homes, and make quilts and clothes for their families.

A drift of dry soil partly buries a tractor and threshing machine on a Saskatchewan farm about 1934

Nowhere in Canada did people learn to co-operate as much as in Saskatchewan. In time they started Co-op stores. These are stores owned by the people who shop in them.

In much the same way, Saskatchewan farmers started a Co-op oil refinery just outside Regina. From the Co-op oil refinery, farmers could get cheaper fuel than from a refinery run by a company.

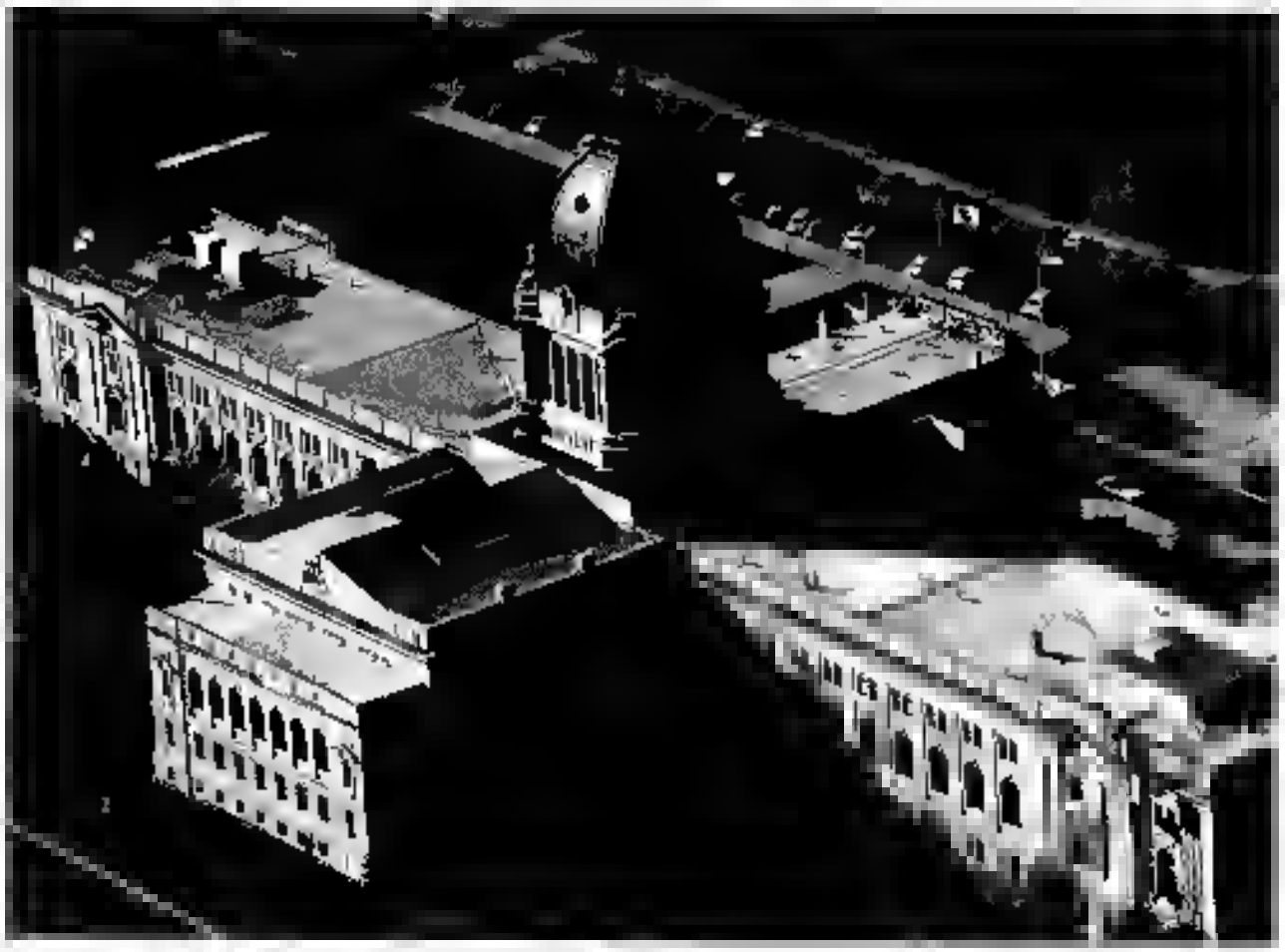
Today almost every Saskatchewan town has its Co-op store and credit union. (A credit union is a bank owned by the people who use it.) Many communities also have Pool (co-operative) elevators, where farmers can take their grain to market.

Oil refinery near Regina. What kind of fields can you see at the top of the picture?

Credit Union Central Regina What other things show that co-operation is a way of life in Saskatchewan?

Co-operating is a way of life in Saskatchewan Regina as the capital city, points the way

Most government leaders in Regina believe strongly in co-operation. They also believe in treating everyone alike They want to give all Saskatchewan people the same chances in life no matter what their race or religion The Saskatchewan government has been a leader in this kind of thinking For instance in 1947 it passed Canada's first bill of rights. In 1962 it became the first in Canada to introduce prepaid medical care for all its people



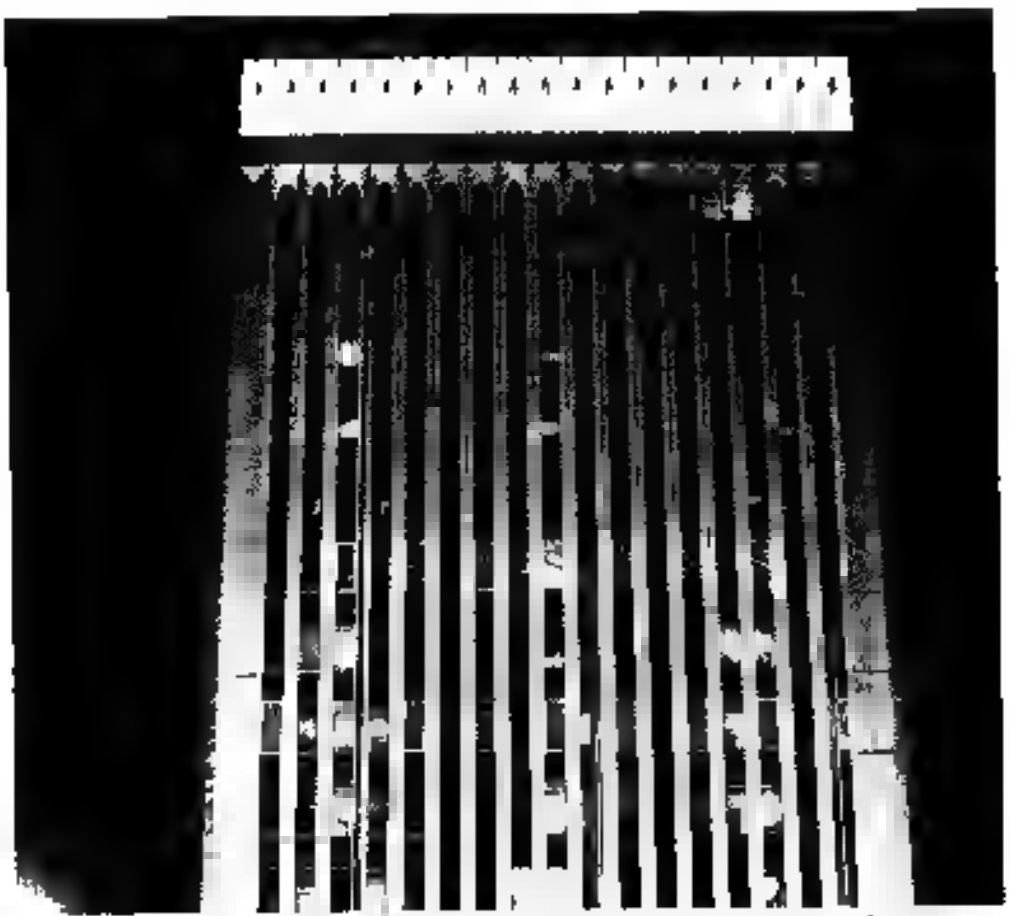
Saskatchewan's provincial government leaders meet in the Legislative Building in Regina. What do they discuss?

Honk honk! Canada geese stalk past red, yellow, and blue flower beds. They are in front of Regina's Legislative Building. It is a stately black-domed building in Wascana Park. This is where Saskatchewan's provincial government leaders meet. They deal with matters such as health care, car licences, and insurance in the province.

They also discuss Saskatchewan's natural resources. The province's rich resources include wheat, potash, and oil. Government leaders try hard to manage these resources in ways that will be good for all Saskatchewan people.

Picture a sleek 16-storey building with a crown of light. This is Regina City Hall. It is on Victoria Avenue downtown. At night City Hall's crowning lights cast a warm glow over Regina.

City Hall is where Regina city government meets. The city government is made up of a mayor and 10 aldermen. They deal with matters affecting mainly the city itself. These include street lighting and city water supply. Regina is growing quickly these days. That means city government leaders often need to talk about what kinds of new buildings they should allow.



Reginans are proud of their ultramodern City Hall. What do city government leaders discuss here?

Some Regina people came from Manitoba, Ontario Britain, the U.S., Germany, and Norway Some came from Holland, China, and Italy Since the early 1900s people have come to Regina from many different places Of course the Native peoples were there long before any others Native people still make up quite a large percentage of the city's population Every spring Regina people hold a festival to share their many backgrounds They call it Mosaic

Summer brings Buffalo Days with Pemmican Pete and Pemmican Pearl That's when Regina goes "Wild West." There are pancake breakfasts horse races, tractor pulls and other exciting events

Pemmican Pete and Pemmican Pearl at Buffalo Days

Prairie sailors on Wascana Lake. Besides sailing, what other sports do Regnans enjoy?

"What wears green and draws fans from all over Saskatchewan?" It's the famous Saskatchewan Roughriders football team. Roughriders play their home games in Regina's Taylor Field.

Regnans don't only like to watch sports. They like to take part, too. Wascana Park is the place for boating, swimming, and golf. In the winter, Regnans enjoy such sports as skating, cross-country skiing, and curling.

Regnans also enjoy music and plays. The Saskatchewan Centre of the Arts is the place to hear the Regina Symphony. The Globe Theatre is one place for plays.

The Agribition held in Regina is a major Canadian farming show. Why is agriculture important to the city?

As in the past, farming is still a main source of wealth for Regina. However, the city has also become a centre for turning raw materials into finished goods. Just outside Regina is IPSCO, one of western Canada's largest steel mills. Workers there make steel and pipe to sell around the world. At the huge Co-op oil refinery, workers turn crude oil into fuel oil and gasoline.

Other main sources of jobs in Regina include the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, Credit Union Central, and Co-op Insurance Services. Of course, a number of Regina people work for the provincial government.

Cornwall Centre in downtown Regina opened in 1981. It includes two office towers, two large department stores, and over 90 smaller shops.

In recent years, new buildings have popped up like mushrooms in Regina. City government leaders are glad to see them. However, they want to make sure the rapid new growth will be good for the people and city as a whole. They are taking care to guide it in the right directions.

Regina has come a long way. First it was Pile of Bones. Now it's Queen City of the Plains — modern and bustling. Under the clear blue prairie sky, the city's future looks bright.

Regina, Queen City of the Plains

Glossary

bill of rights — A statement of how people are to be treated as citizens of a certain place such as a country or province It is a statement of certain freedoms and rights that all citizens have For instance in Canada all citizens have freedom of speech (p 23)

coot — A wading and swimming bird that looks something like a chicken (p 10)

crude oil — Oil as it comes out of the ground before people have prepared it for use (p 28)

grebe — A diving bird something like a loon (p 10)

homestead — A house and other buildings with their land In the west a homestead was a piece of land that the government gave to a settler to be turned into a farm (p 11)

insurance — An agreement that a person can pay for and make with an insurance company If the person suffers a loss because of hail fire wind and so on the company will pay that person a certain amount of money The money is to make up for the loss suffered (p 24)

manufacturing — The producing or making of things especially by machine (p 7)

medical — Having to do with medicine having to do with health care (p 23)

Northwest Territories — The northwestern part of Canada Today this is the area west of Hudson Bay east of the Yukon and north of the western provinces At one time

the Northwest Territories took in a much larger area including all of what are now Saskatchewan and Alberta (p. 17)

natural resource — A material found in nature and used by people. For example, fish, water and gold are all natural resources (p. 24)

pelican — A large water bird having, under its beak, a pouch for storing food (p. 12)

pemmican — A mixture of dried meat and fat, sometimes including berries (p. 6)

percentage — A part or rate based on 100. For example, if 20 out of every 100 people wear glasses, we say 20 percent wear glasses. The percentage of those wearing glasses would be 20 (p. 26).

potash — A substance containing potassium, used mainly for fertilizer (p. 24)

recruit — A new member of a group, especially a police or armed forces group (p. 13)

refinery — A place where workers turn crude oil (oil as it comes from the ground) into products that people can use. These products include gasoline for cars, grease for motors and many kinds of plastic (p. 22)

rival — A person or group that tries to get the same things as another. A person or group that tries to be equal to or better than another (p. 7)

scoffer — A person who makes fun of something (p. 19).

site — A place, a location (p. 18)

symphony — A large group of musicians who play long, usually quite serious pieces of music called symphonies (p. 27).

tern — A bird that looks something like a small sea gull (p. 10)

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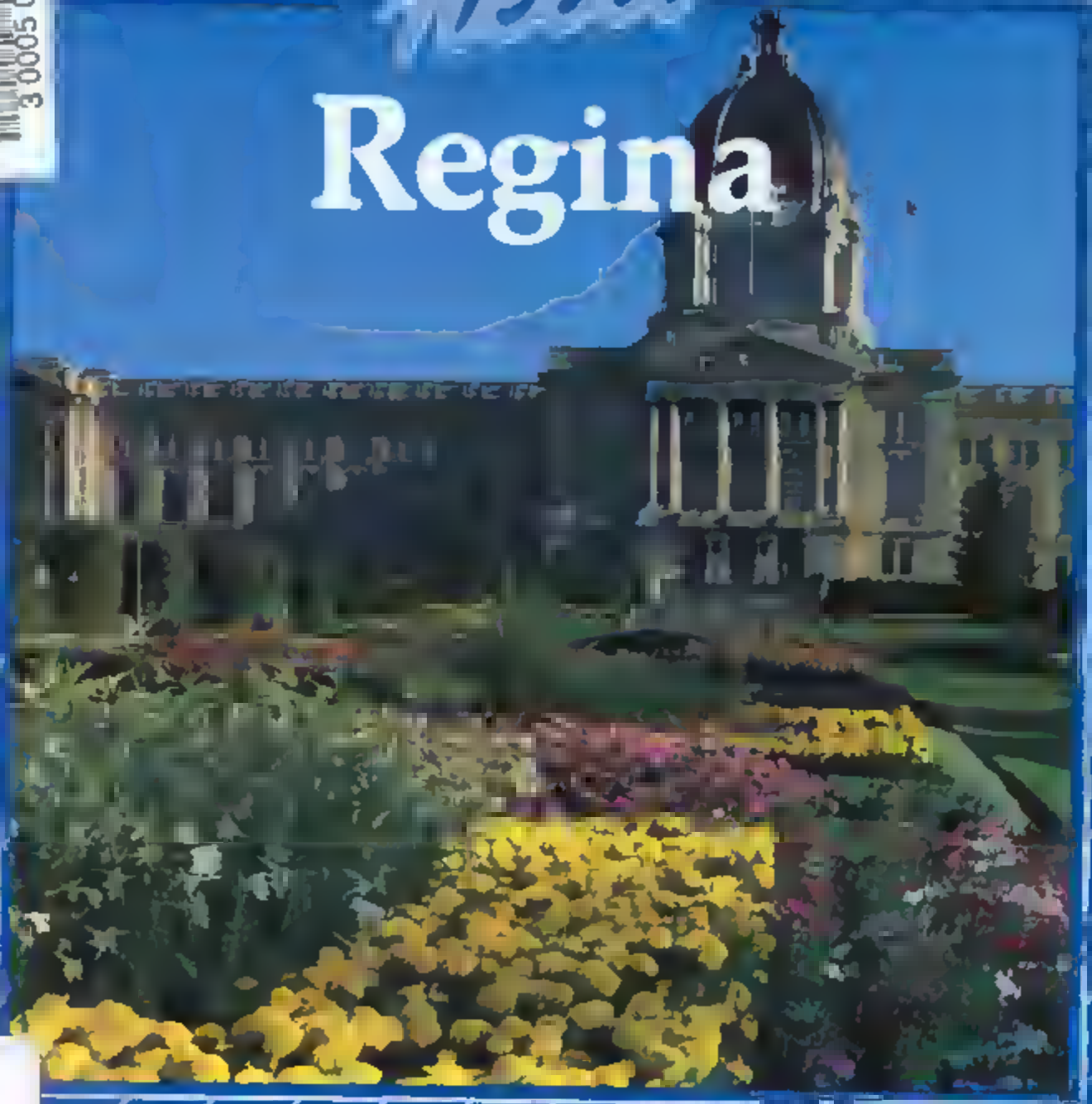

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hello

Regina

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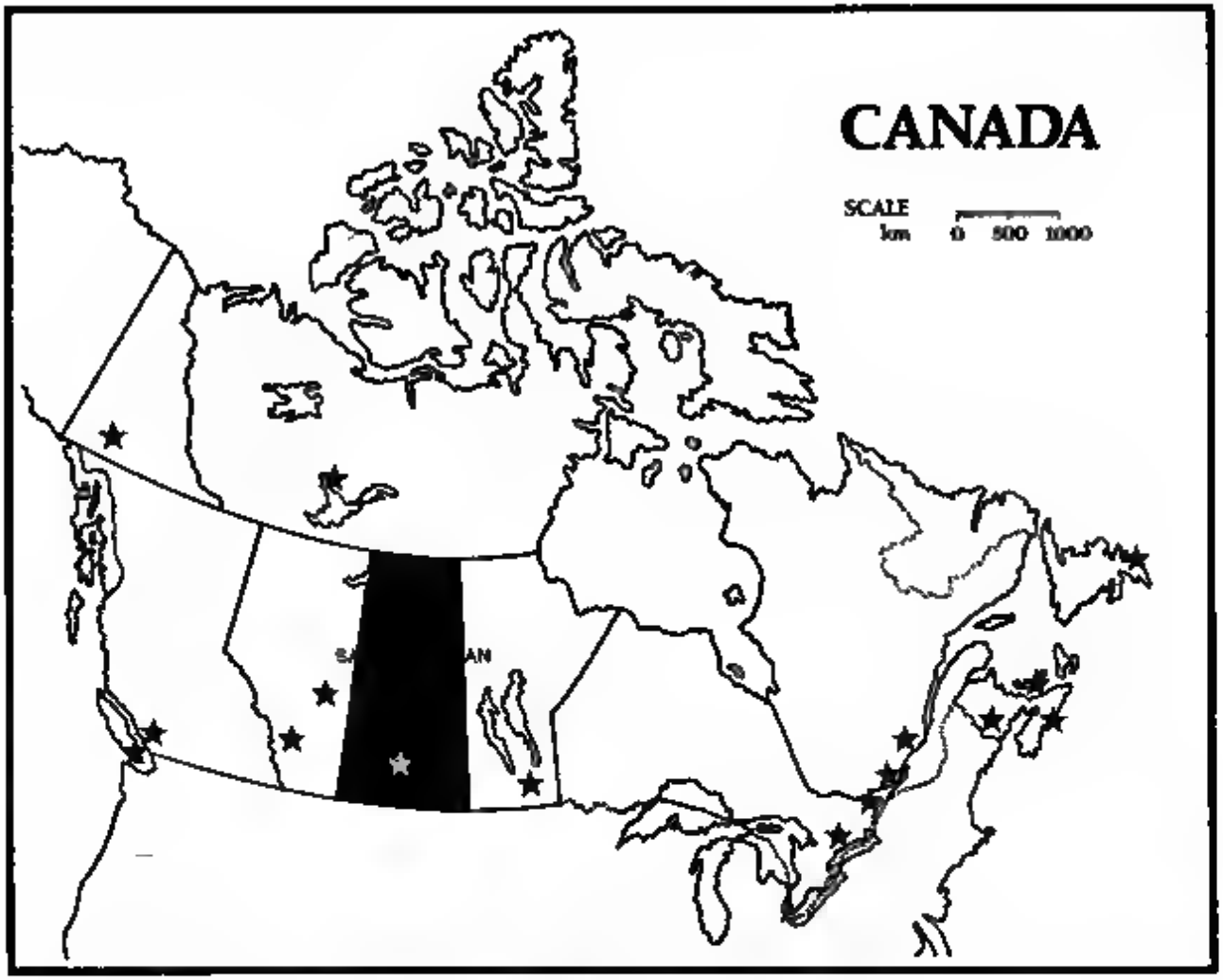
Pemmican Pete says "Welcome to Regina." Every summer, Pete is the friendly star of Regina's Buffalo Days He wears a Wild West outfit. He rides a charging buffalo

Pete's city, Regina, began as flat treeless prairie. A small trickling stream, Wascana Creek, was its only body of water. Native buffalo hunters stopped along Wascana Creek's banks. There they tanned the woolly brown buffalo hides. They dried the buffalo meat to make a long-lasting food called pemmican. (And that's where Pemmican Pete got his name!)

Pemmican Pete welcomes you to Regina and its "wild west" celebration, Buffalo Days



"Miracle City" is one name we could give Regina. It began from almost nothing. There were no trees for wood, only a small creek for water, and no hills for shelter. City builders had to bring wood, bricks, and most other things from elsewhere. Almost everything you see in Regina today was brought there by the hardy, strong-willed people themselves.

Many people call Regina the "Queen City of the Plains." It is the proud capital of Saskatchewan. It is a modern business, farming, and manufacturing centre. With about 175 000 people, Regina is one of Saskatchewan's two largest cities. It's about the same size as its rival city to the north, Saskatoon.

Harvest time. Farmers have swathed the wheat into long rows. Soon they will combine it to separate grain from straw.

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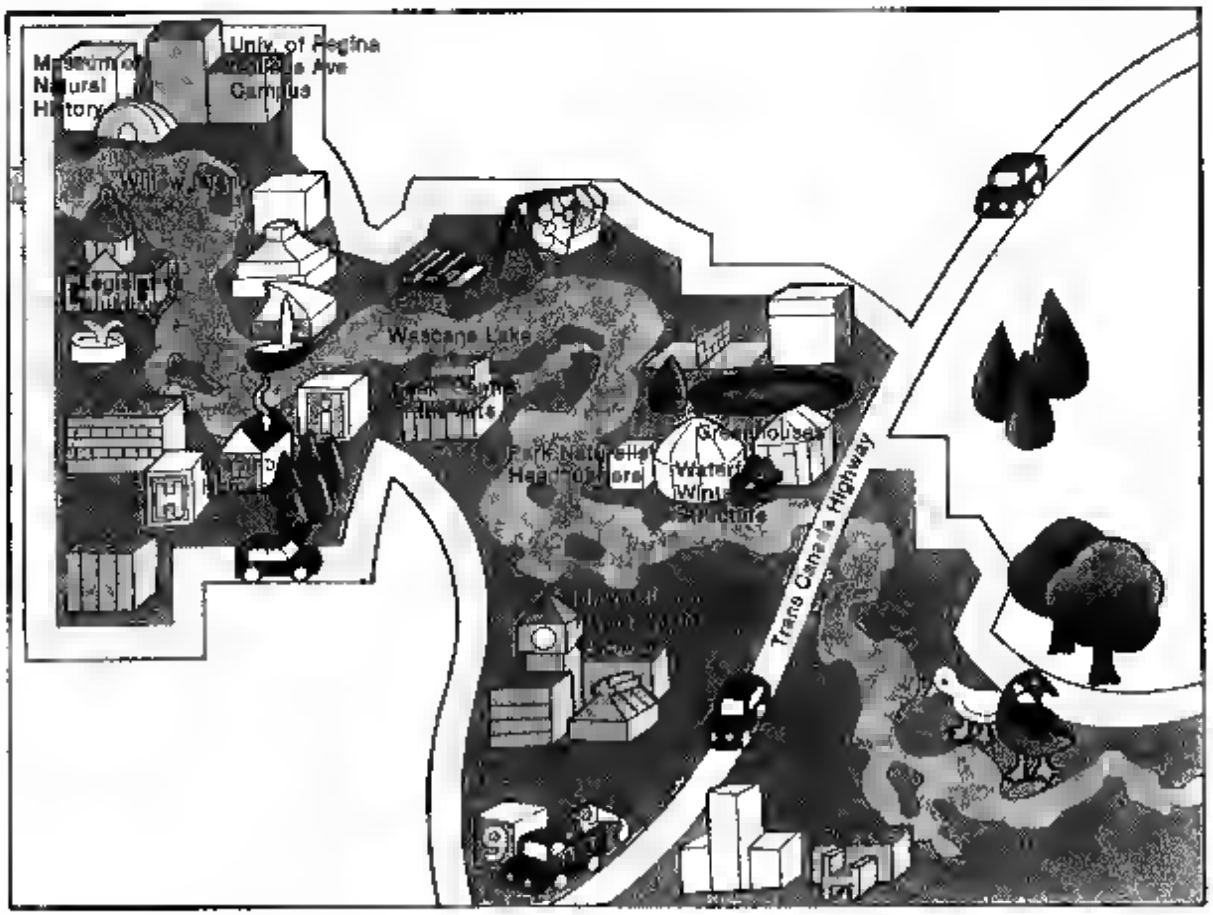

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The "3-D" wolf display at the Museum of Natural History. What other Saskatchewan animals could you see there?

See timber wolves howling at the moon in a snowy northern Saskatchewan forest. See **pelicans** sunning themselves beside a Saskatchewan lake. Now you are at Regina's Museum of Natural History. It's at the north end of Wascana Park. Prairie dogs, coyotes, elk, black bears, moose — these are just a few of the interesting animals you can see. Many of the displays are "3-D." Looking at them, you feel as if you're really there.

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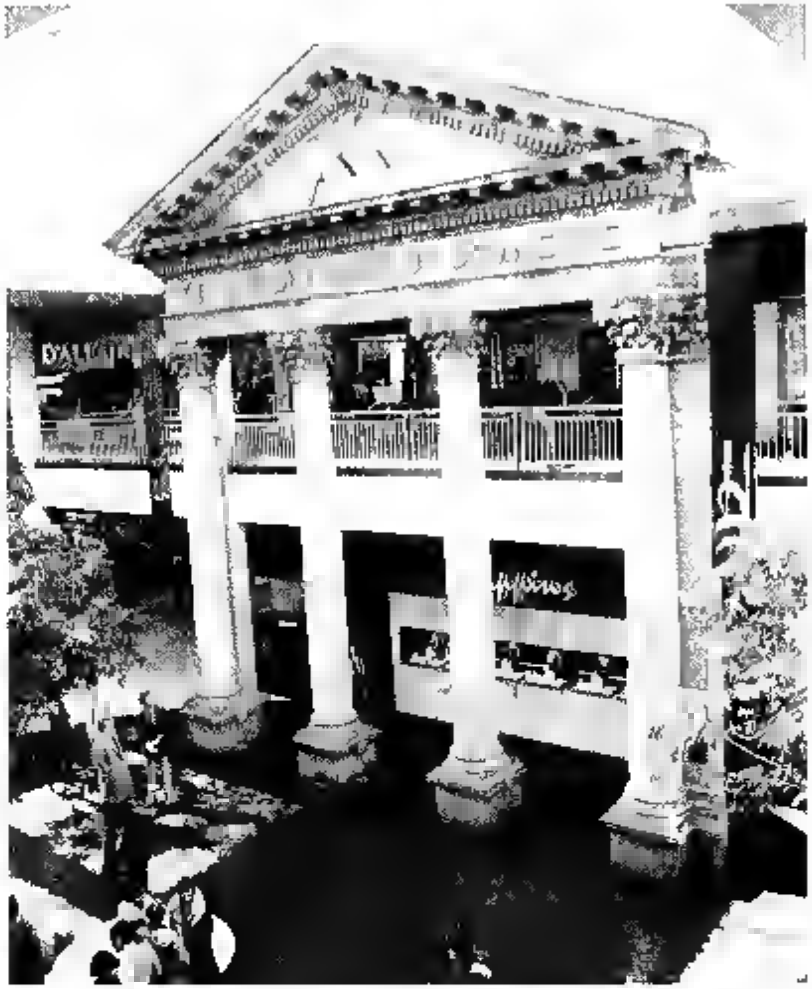

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Several blocks east of the RCMP Depot is downtown Regina. Downtown centres on Victoria Avenue between Albert and Broad Streets. Its buildings are very modern, built mostly of concrete and glass.

Streets in most western Canadian cities are wide. Regina's downtown streets, however, are narrow. This sometimes causes traffic problems. Cars sometimes have to line up for the bridges crossing Wascana Creek. In spite of traffic problems, Reginans like to use cars to get around their city. Cars are their favourite means of travel. However, they also use Regina's system of city buses.

In summer, some Reginans get around by bike. A bike trail winds through the city along Wascana Creek. It's fun to go zipping along in the sunshine under the clear prairie sky. The sun shines almost every day in Regina. Sometimes it gets a little too warm and dry in summer. Average temperature for July is 19°C.

Brrrr! Winter can be cold in Regina, especially when the wind howls across the open plains. Average temperature for January is about -18°C. Blizzards can blow up suddenly. Because of the harsh winters, Reginans work hard to make their houses snug and warm. They also have special laws about how far children should have to walk to school.

Winter fun. Skating on Wascana Lake. How do Reginans cope with their harsh winters?

Long ago the windswept area that is now Regina was the home of the Native Assiniboine and Cree peoples. They roamed the grasslands, hunting buffalo. They lived in buffalo-skin teepees. After a hunt, Native people often camped at a certain spot on the flat banks of Wascana Creek. There they tanned buffalo hides and made pemmican.

The Wascana Creek camping spot was important in the Native peoples' religious beliefs. They piled up buffalo bones there. As the years passed, the pile of bones grew bigger and bigger. From it came the early name of the spot. In the Cree language, it was *Oskunah-kasas-take*. Early European explorers called it *Wascana* or *Pile of Bones*.

Native people surrounding and shooting buffalo. This painting, called A Surround, was done in 1837 by Alfred Jacob Miller.

Railway builders near Regina in the 1880s. They laid down logs called "ties" Over these went the steel rails

Whooo-ooo! The trains are coming! In the early 1880s, the Canadian Pacific Railway Company built a railway across western Canada. It was to be a great "ribbon of steel" tying Canada together. The CPR decided to build a town at the place where the railway crossed Wascana Creek. This was the Native peoples' camping spot, Pile of Bones.

At the same time, the Canadian government was also looking for a new spot for a town. They wanted it to be the new capital of the **Northwest Territories.** (At that time the Northwest Territories was a huge area of the west, including most of the prairies.)

Regina 1885. What are the sidewalks and buildings made of?

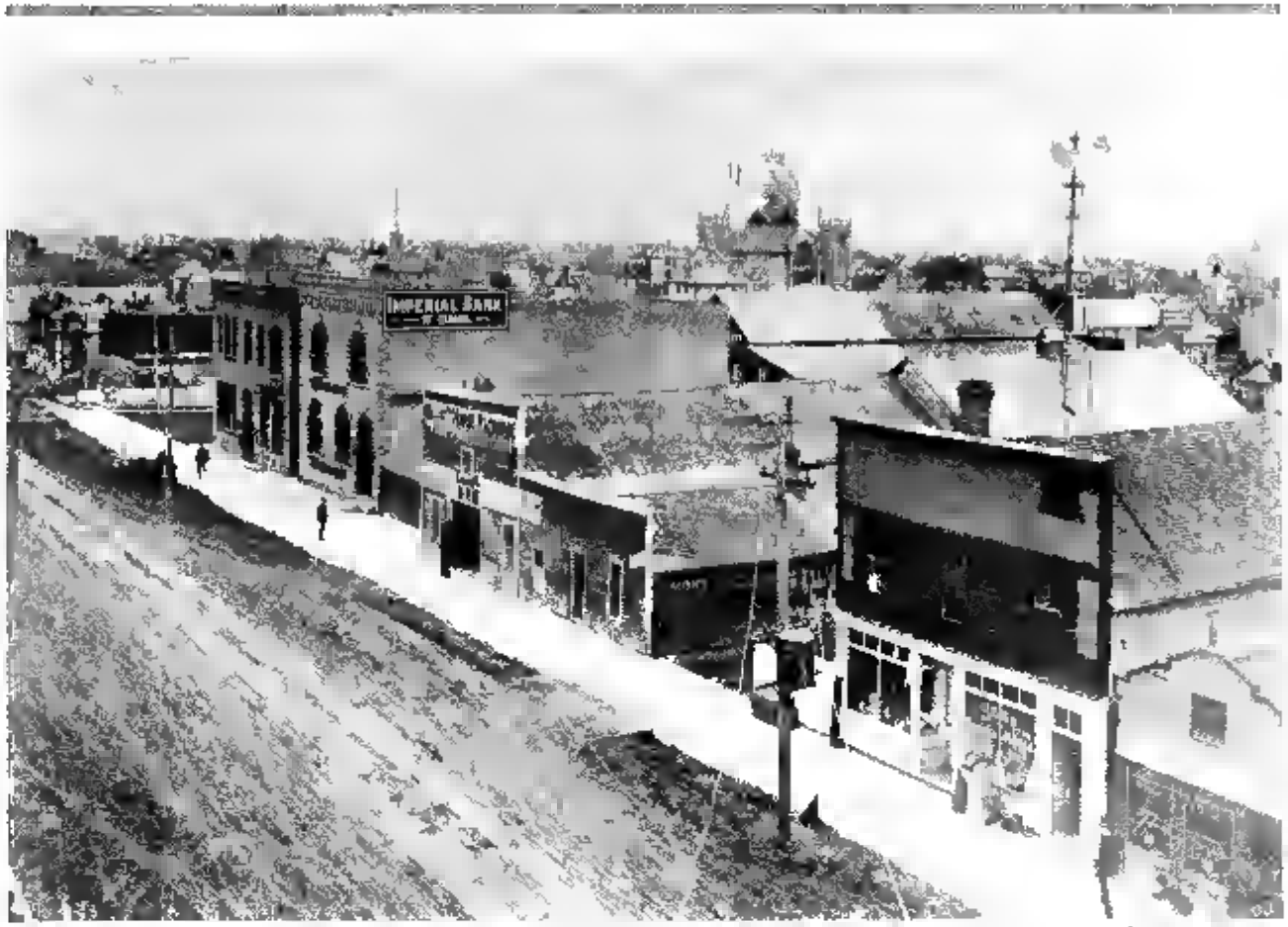
"Pile of Bones is our spot," said the CPR. "Pile of Bones is our spot," said the Canadian government. Both agreed on the site for the brand new town.

At first that "town" was just a huddle of settlers' tents on the open prairie. Then, in August 1882, the first CPR train came puffing in. Along with the train came a new name for the community — *Regina*. This is the Latin word for *queen*. It was given to honour the British queen, Victoria.

Some people shook their heads over the choice of Regina as capital of the Northwest Territories. "There's hardly a tree in sight," they said. "There's only about enough water in the creek to wash a sheep!" Many thought the capital should have been a bit farther north — in the well watered and wooded Qu'Appelle River Valley.

In spite of the scoffers, Regina grew. Soon the North West Mounted Police moved their main fort there. (They are called the RCMP today.)

Eyes front! Royal Canadian Mounted Police of today. In the early days they were called the North West Mounted Police



Regina in 1905. What do the business signs "Horse Exchange" and "Seed Supply House" tell you?

Missionaries arrived in Regina. Among the first were Methodists, Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, and Anglicans. They started churches and Sunday Schools. Sunday Schools soon became an important means of education for the new community's young people.

As the years passed, scores of eager, hard-working farm families arrived. Many came from Manitoba, Ontario, and the United States. The Regina area's rich, treeless wheat-growing land drew them there. Business people arrived, too. They opened stores, hotels, and other businesses. By 1903 Regina was a city. Soon it became the capital of the new province of Saskatchewan.

During the 1930s, much of the world was in a business "slump." People lost their jobs. Many did not even have money for food. In Saskatchewan the slump was especially bad because the 1930s were such dry years there. Very little rain fell. "It's so dry," Saskatchewan people joked, "that we have to use paper clips to put stamps on our letters!" Farming soil dried up. The top layers drifted away with the wind, blackening the sky. Crops would not grow.

What did people do? They learned to work together — to co-operate. They shared what little food they had. They helped each other build barns, fix their homes, and make quilts and clothes for their families.

A drift of dry soil partly buries a tractor and threshing machine on a Saskatchewan farm about 1934

Nowhere in Canada did people learn to co-operate as much as in Saskatchewan. In time, they started Co-op stores. These are stores owned by the people who shop in them

In much the same way, Saskatchewan farmers started a Co-op oil **refinery** just outside Regina. From the Co-op oil refinery, farmers could get cheaper fuel than from a refinery run by a company

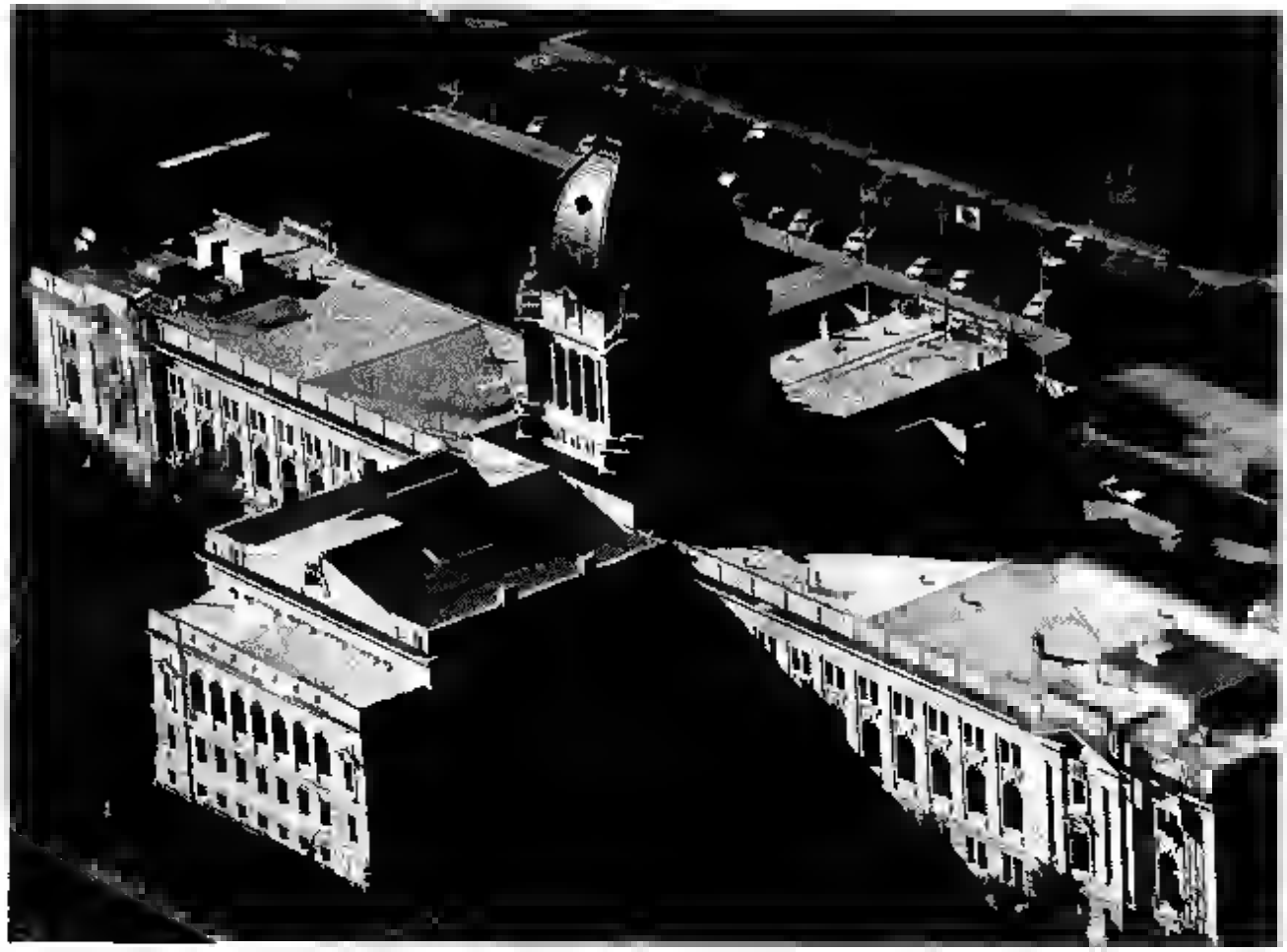
Today almost every Saskatchewan town has its Co-op store and credit union. (A credit union is a bank owned by the people who use it.) Many communities also have Pool (co-operative) elevators, where farmers can take their grain to market.

Oil refinery near Regina. What kind of fields can you see at the top of the picture?

Credit Union Central, Regina. What other things show that co-operation is a way of life in Saskatchewan?

Co-operating is a way of life in Saskatchewan. Regina, as the capital city, points the way.

Most government leaders in Regina believe strongly in co-operation. They also believe in treating everyone alike. They want to give all Saskatchewan people the same chances in life, no matter what their race or religion. The Saskatchewan government has been a leader in this kind of thinking. For instance, in 1947 it passed Canada's first **bill of rights**. In 1962 it became the first in Canada to introduce prepaid **medical** care for all its people.



Saskatchewan's provincial government leaders meet in the Legislative Building in Regina. What do they discuss?

Honk, honk! Canada geese stalk past red, yellow, and blue flower beds. They are in front of Regina's Legislative Building. It is a stately black-domed building in Wascana Park. This is where Saskatchewan's provincial government leaders meet. They deal with matters such as health care, car licences, and insurance in the province.

They also discuss Saskatchewan's natural resources. The province's rich resources include wheat, potash, and oil. Government leaders try hard to manage these resources in ways that will be good for all Saskatchewan people.

Picture a sleek 16-storey building with a crown of light. This is Regina City Hall. It is on Victoria Avenue downtown. At night, City Hall's crowning lights cast a warm glow over Regina.

City Hall is where Regina city government meets. The city government is made up of a mayor and 10 aldermen. They deal with matters affecting mainly the city itself. These include street lighting and city water supply. Regina is growing quickly these days. That means city government leaders often need to talk about what kinds of new buildings they should allow.

Reginans are proud of their ultramodern City Hall. What do city government leaders discuss here?

Some Regina people came from Manitoba, Ontario, Britain, the U.S., Germany, and Norway. Some came from Holland, China, and Italy. Since the early 1900s, people have come to Regina from many different places. Of course, the Native peoples were there long before any others. Native people still make up quite a large percentage of the city's population. Every spring, Regina people hold a festival to share their many backgrounds. They call it Mosaic.

Summer brings Buffalo Days with Pemmican Pete and Pemmican Pearl. That's when Regina goes "Wild West." There are pancake breakfasts, horse races, tractor pulls, and other exciting events.

Pemmican Pete and Pemmican Pearl at Buffalo Days

Prairie sailors on Wascana Lake. Besides sailing what other sports do Regmans enjoy?

"What wears green and draws fans from all over Saskatchewan?" It's the famous Saskatchewan Roughriders football team. Roughriders play their home games in Regina's Taylor Field.

Reginans don't only like to watch sports. They like to take part, too. Wascana Park is the place for boating, swimming, and golf. In the winter, Reginans enjoy such sports as skating, cross-country skiing, and curling.

Reginans also enjoy music and plays. The Saskatchewan Centre of the Arts is the place to hear the Regina Symphony. The Globe Theatre is one place for plays.

The Agribition, held in Regina, is a major Canadian farming show. Why is agriculture important to the city?

As in the past, farming is still a main source of wealth for Regina. However, the city has also become a centre for turning raw materials into finished goods. Just outside Regina is IPSCO, one of western Canada's largest steel mills. Workers there make steel and pipe to sell around the world. At the huge Co-op oil refinery, workers turn crude oil into fuel oil and gasoline.

Other main sources of jobs in Regina include the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, Credit Union Central, and Co-op Insurance Services. Of course, a number of Regina people work for the provincial government.

Cornwall Centre in downtown Regina opened in 1981. It includes two office towers, two large department stores, and over 90 smaller shops.

In recent years, new buildings have popped up like mushrooms in Regina. City government leaders are glad to see them. However, they want to make sure the rapid new growth will be good for the people and city as a whole. They are taking care to guide it in the right directions.

Regina has come a long way. First it was Pile of Bones. Now it's Queen City of the Plains — modern and bustling. Under the clear blue prairie sky, the city's future looks bright.

Regina, Queen City of the Plains

Glossary

bill of rights — A statement of how people are to be treated as citizens of a certain place such as a country or province. It is a statement of certain freedoms and rights that all citizens have. For instance, in Canada all citizens have freedom of speech (p. 23).

coot — A wading and swimming bird that looks something like a chicken (p. 10).

crude oil — Oil as it comes out of the ground, before people have prepared it for use (p. 28).

grebe — A diving bird something like a loon (p. 10).

homestead — A house and other buildings with their land. In the west, a homestead was a piece of land that the government gave to a settler to be turned into a farm (p. 11).

insurance — An agreement that a person can pay for and make with an insurance company. If the person suffers a loss because of hail, fire, wind, and so on, the company will pay that person a certain amount of money. The money is to make up for the loss suffered (p. 24).

manufacturing — The producing or making of things, especially by machine (p. 7).

medical — Having to do with medicine, having to do with health care (p. 23).

Northwest Territories — The northwestern part of Canada. Today this is the area west of Hudson Bay, east of the Yukon, and north of the western provinces. At one time

the Northwest Territories took in a much larger area including all of what are now Saskatchewan and Alberta (p. 17)

natural resource — A material found in nature and used by people. For example, fish, water, and gold are all natural resources (p. 24).

pelican — A large water bird having, under its beak, a pouch for storing food (p. 12).

pemmican — A mixture of dried meat and fat, sometimes including berries (p. 6).

percentage — A part or rate based on 100. For example, if 20 out of every 100 people wear glasses, we say 20 percent wear glasses. The percentage of those wearing glasses would be 20 (p. 26).

potash — A substance containing potassium, used mainly for fertilizer (p. 24).

recruit — A new member of a group, especially a police or armed forces group (p. 13).

refinery — A place where workers turn crude oil (oil as it comes from the ground) into products that people can use. These products include gasoline for cars, grease for motors, and many kinds of plastic (p. 22).

rival — A person or group that tries to get the same things as another. A person or group that tries to be equal to or better than another (p. 7).

scoffer — A person who makes fun of something (p. 19).

site — A place; a location (p. 18).

symphony — A large group of musicians who play long, usually quite serious pieces of music called symphonies (p. 27).

tern — A bird that looks something like a small sea gull (p. 10).

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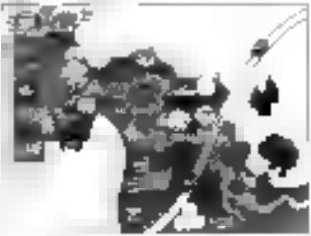

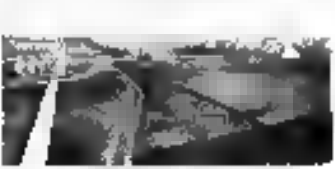

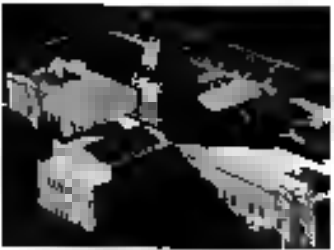

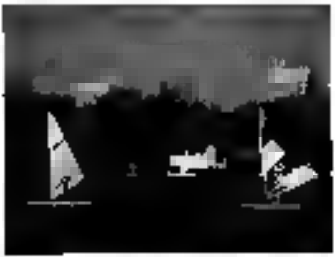

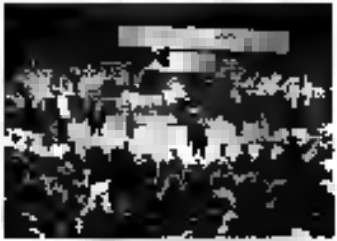

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